

**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT**

Please amend the original abstract by replacing the abstract on page 10 of the specification with the following amended abstract:

~~For use in a multi-protocol Network Management System application for managing a multi-protocol layered transmissions network including a plurality of network elements, a~~ A method for generating a model of ~~[[the]]~~ a multi-protocol layered ~~transmissions~~ transmission network, ~~the method comprising the steps of:~~ including determining the protocol layers in the ~~multi-protocol layered transmissions network~~ [[;]] and ~~for each protocol layer, mapping~~ [[out]] an overlay including for each layer. [[the]] The overlay includes a network elements operative in ~~the protocol layer, and that particular layer, b)~~ at least one physical link and/or ~~[[the]]~~ a logical ~~links~~ link interconnecting at least a pairs pair of network elements where transport service along a logical ~~the~~ link is at least partially provided by a transmission path on a protocol layer directly underlying the particular protocol layer, and ~~[[the]]~~ c) a pair of association links between each physical/logical link and its associated transmission path.